

Amended Minutes of the Board of Fire Commissioners
Regular Meeting held in the Commissioners Conference Room
Fire Headquarters, 72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm by Vice Chairman Corvino.
A quorum was present.

1. Roll Call

Commissioners' Carmen Corvino, John Healy, Richard Smith, William Brennan, Howard Stein and Jonathan Berchem. Also present were Chief Louis A. LaVecchia, Assistant Chief Robert J. Healey and Assistant Chief Daniel L. Johnson **Excused:** Chairman Thomas Riso

2. Public Statements limited to the function of the Board of Fire Commissioners

None.

3. Consideration of Minutes of September 15, 2009

Commissioner Stein pointed out his comments had been omitted from Item 6 of the Chief's Report. As per comments attributed to me: after my statement "Commissioner Stein said it could be a problem when you get into partisan politics", **Amended with additional comments:** "and he felt that the Board should not arbitrarily suspend General Rules. He felt that it sets a bad precedence and could lead to future problems." Commissioner Stein also pointed out in regard to the same item, Chairman Riso voted opposed to the motion as well. **Amended as follows:** Commissioners' Corvino and Healy made and seconded a motion: The Board of Fire Commissioners suspends General Rule 23 to enable the Department to support Jim Amann's candidacy for Governor. Motion carried 5 yes (Commissioners' Healy, Corvino, Smith, Brennan, Berchem) and 2 opposed (Commissioners' Riso and Stein).

Commissioners' Brennan and Smith made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2009 meeting as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Communications

- Letter of concern addressed to Milford Fire Department dated 9/8/09 from Ms. Barbara Banis from Stratford, CT regarding kayak incident.
- Letter dated 9/29/09 to Chief LaVecchia from Chief Burford, Town of Ridgefield letter of thanks graciously accepting donation of rehab vehicle from Milford Fire Department.
- Town of Stratford thank you letter addressed to Chief LaVecchia from Chief Cavanaugh, for use of truck while their truck as out of service.
- Letter dated 9/3/09 from Knights of Columbus to Chief LaVecchia, thank you to the firefighters who worked at the carnival in August.
- Undated letter from Senior Fire Inspector Andrew T. Vargo to Board of Fire Commissioners requesting permission to seek and obtain a Fire Prevention Grant for the acquisition of a smoke trailer. Commissioners' Healy and Corvino made and seconded a motion to grant permission to Senior Fire Inspector Andrew T. Vargo to seek a grant for the acquisition of a smoke trailer. Motion carried unanimously.

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5. Committee Reports

- Apparatus report from Assistant Chief Johnson: Engine 3 is out of service for repair on main piston on the aerial. Rescue 3 is out of service and Engine 8 spare is out of service for routine maintenance.
- Assistant Chief Johnson said he e-mailed Julie Phelps from Supthen a list of repairs made on Tower 1 in the past 9 years.

6. Chief's Report

- Assistant Chief Healey said Live Burn Training is being conducted at the old Howard Johnson Hotel and has exceeded our expectations so far. Commissioners and Fire Department from West Shore came over and we tried out Stocs radio. AC Healey invited MFD Commissioners to attend and mentioned West Haven heard about the training and wants to participate. Firefighters' Hoyt, Eisenhandler and Vitale attended the meeting and were available to answer any questions regarding their experience during training.
- Chief LaVecchia stated he received an invitation from Madeline Clem, Secretary of the New Haven County Fire Commissioners Association to attend their October 21, 2009 meeting.
- Chief LaVecchia said the budget package for next years budget was picked up last week. Deadline is on October 9th. Next Commissioners meeting isn't until October 17th. Board had no objections to seeing the budget after it has been submitted.
- Chief LaVecchia said the Department is getting a new records management and CAD system for dispatch. MPD and MFD are both buying into the same system. Our currently CAD is close to 30 years old. MPD is getting new radio system and towers and we may be able to tie into that as well.
- Chief LaVecchia said a donation was received from Iroquois to cover the cost of unlimited minutes for the Code Red system for one year and for the purchase of a Live Fire Extinguisher Simulator System.
- Chief LaVecchia stated he discussed with the Union implementation of Lieutenants at Station 5 and submitted the 2-year Lieutenants List to the Board for approval. Commissioner Stein moved the Board approve the 8 names on the October 6, 2009 eligibility list for Lieutenant. Commissioner Brennan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Brennan asked about a recent change regarding calling AMR before CMED. AC Healey said operating forces reported ambulance delay so we are going directly to AMR to find out if we get better response. AC Healey said we are monitoring it and if it doesn't work out, we'll go back to the way it was.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

8. New Business

None.

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9. Comments/Concerns of the Commissioners:

- Commissioner Corvino said our Awards Ceremony is Thursday, October 29th at 7:00pm at City Hall.

10. Adjournment

Commissioners' Smith and Healy made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:32pm Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Mudrick